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**BALTIMORE CAREER OFFENDER EXILED TO OVER 15 YEARS
IN FEDERAL PRISON**

Baltimore, Maryland - U.S. District Judge Marvin J. Garbis sentenced Keith Rogers, age 28, of Baltimore, today to 185 months in prison, followed by five years of supervised release, for possession with intent to distribute more than five grams of crack cocaine, announced United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Rod J. Rosenstein. Judge Garbis enhanced Rogers' sentence upon finding that he was a career offender based on five previous felony narcotics convictions and an assault conviction. Rogers was on probation at the time of the federal charges after being convicted in Baltimore City Circuit Court for attempted distribution of cocaine.

According to his guilty plea, on April 30, 2007, law enforcement executed a search warrant at Rogers' residence in the 6500 block of Hartwait Street, after receiving information that Rogers was storing drugs in the home. Rogers was located in the basement and told the officers that he sleeps in the basement, but has access to the rest of the house. Recovered from several different locations in the basement ceiling was: one Colt, Model Official Police, .38 SPL caliber revolver, loaded with 6 rounds of ammunition; one compact disc case with approximately one ounce of crack cocaine; one box containing 80 rounds of .38 special ammunition; plastic wrap containing marijuana and empty ziplocks for packaging narcotics. Agents also found in a dresser in the basement \$163; three ziplock baggies containing marijuana; two plastic wraps containing marijuana; and drug paraphernalia. The total amount of crack cocaine found in Rogers' home was 17.26 grams.

United States Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein thanked the Baltimore City State's Attorney Patricia C. Jessamy, the Baltimore Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives for their assistance in the investigation and prosecution. Mr. Rosenstein commended Assistant United States Attorney Debra L. Dwyer, who is prosecuting the case.